The History of Mason and Dixon's Line, tained in an Address delivered by John H. B. Latrobe, of Maryland, before the Historical So-ciety of Pennsylvania, November 8, 1854. Mirana Elliot, or the Voice of the Spirit, by S.

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CITY OF WASHINGTON, THURSDAY MORNING DECEMBER 27, 1855.

WOOD GAS.—CAUTION
Be it known that I, the subscriber obtained letters patent in December, 1851, for an apparatus for the destructive distillation of wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at pleasure, and gas; and that in the judgment of competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be used by him or any other person without infringing my said patent. And, further, that what is patented by said Porter rightfully belongs to me, as I expect to prove ere long before the United States Patent Office; and, further, that the use of said Porter's invention involves also a process which I am now claiming before the United States Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be patentable to the first inventor thereof, and which said W. D. Porter has formally disclaimed, as appears upon the public records of said office, of which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his claims.

In the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant Mr. Porter announces that he has secured by patent the "exclusive right to making gas from wood," and threatens presecution to all parties infringing his patent. I ask how this statement comports with the fact of my patent of December, 1851, and how far the threat can intimidate under such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a movable perforated disphragm, and was so understood by the Patent Office, as it appears from the records of the Patent Office that his claim was at first refused as interfering with a prior patent to Robert Foulis, of Canada, for an equivalent contrivance. This claim, as given below, and in which the perforated disphragm is the saving clause, is what Mr. Porter calls securing the "exclusive right to making gas from wood." The statement carries absurdity on its front, and is a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office If such a claim or right had been granted, it would a statement carries assuredly on its front, and a a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office If such a claim or right had been granted, it would forbid every coal-kiln and charcoal manufactory

in the country.

The following copies of correspondence and extracts from the records of the Patent Office will show the true state of the case: UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

Sir. In reply to your letter of this date, asking if any patent has been granted to W. D. Porter dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or dated 22d August, 1894, or at any other time, or to any other person or persons, securing to him or them "the exclusive right of making gas from wood," and whether any such claim was made by W. D. Porter, under his application for a patent, which letters patent were issued bearing the above date, you are informed that W. D. Porter's claims are believed to be c ufined to his apparation. tus; and, further, this office is not aware that a patent has been granted heretofore for the exclusive right of making gas from word. It would, however, be unjustifiable to expect me to make an extended investigation to answer your re-

uest.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents.
W. P. McConakll, Esq.,
Care of Prof. C. G. Page, Washington, D. C.

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greting:

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the files of this office of an extract from a paper filed in the matter of the application of W. D. Porter for letters patent, in accordance with which application letters patent were issued to the said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

In testimony whereof, I. Charles Mason, Commissioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed [L. s.] this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-nintb.

C. Mason.

Copy of disclaimer of W. D. Porter in his applica-tion for "an improved still for making wood gas," filed August 5, 1854. Letters patent issued August 22, 1854. "I do not claim as my invention and discovery

the improvements in making gas from wood, viz: subjecting the products of destructive distillation therefrom to a high degree of heat, substantially as has been described and for the purposes set forth in the specification of W. P. McConnell."

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come greeting:

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the records of this office of an extract from the specification of W. D. Porter's patent, issued in the twenty second day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

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timony whereof, I, Charles Mason, Com-missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed this twenty-fifth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth. C. Mason.

seventy-ninth. C. Mason.

Extract from Specification of W. D. Perter on which letters patent were issued August 22, 1854.

CLAIM.—What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by letters patent is:

"The construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still, and the construction of a gas apparatus or still and the construction of a gas apparatus or still and the construction of a gas apparatus or still and the construction of a gas apparatus or still and the construction of a gas apparatus or still a consisting of a metallic or other cylinder B, the cones E and D, diaphram plate C, and exit pipe F, substantially as described in the foregoing specification, and shown in the accompanying draw-

WM. P. McCONNELL,

By his attorney CHAS. G. PAGE. "DOOR'S RAILROAD MAP OF THE UNITED STATES."—This celebra-ted Map, recently eulogized by Lieutenant Mau-ry, in his "Virginia Letters," is on sale at TAYLOR & MAURY'S

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In doing so, it is proper be should make known the principles it will maintain, and the policy it will advocate.

It will support cordially and earnestly the principles of the Democratic party of the United States it does not propose to be the organ of any Department of the Government, except in so far as an independent maintenance of the doctrines of that party may represent its opinions and express its views.

It will not be ambitious to commend itself to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers. It will seek public support by the bold avowal of the sentiments which are common to the genuine Nemocracy of the Union, and by the condemnation of all such as may conflict with them, from whatever quarter they may come. It will seek to be (and it will endeavor to deserve the title) the organ of the Democratic party of the United States.

The Secretary will maintain as a fundamental

States.

The Sentiner will maintain, as a fundamental truth of that great party, that the States formed the Union between them by the ratification of the Constitution as a compact; by which, also, they created the Federal Government, and delegated to it, as their common agent, the powers expressly specified in it, with an explicit reservation of all others to the States, or to their separate governments. The exercise of any powers beyond these thus delegated, is, therefore, an usurpation of the reserved authority of the States by the agent of their own creation.

heir own creation.

The Sentines, will uphold and defend the Union upon the basis of the rights of the States—under the Constitution—and thus by sedulously guarding the latter, it will the more effectually strengthen and perpetuate the former.

With regard to the exercise of the powers of the With regard to the exercise of the powers of the Fee rai Government, the Sentinel will take as the rinciples of its action, that Congress shall exercise no power which has not been delegated by the C. nstitution, according to a strict and fair interpretation of its language and spirit; and that it shall not seek to attain indirectly an object through the exercise of constitutional power, for the direct attainment of which it has no delegation of power. In other words, all powers exercised must be clearly grated, and all granted powers must be used for no surpose, except such as is clearly intended by the Constitution.

In respect to the internal administration of the In respect to the internal administration of the Government, the Sentingle will sustain the settled policy of the Democratic party. It will labor to inculcate this cardinal doctrine of Democratic in ternal policy:—that this Government will best promote the freedom and prosperity of the people of the States, by being less ambitious to exercise power, and more auxious to preserve liberty; and by leaving to the individual States the management of all their domestic concerns—while it contents itself with guarding the confederacy from external violence, and directing the foreign policy of the country to the promotion of the common interests, and defence of the common rights, and honor of the States composing it. onor of the States composing it.

The Sentinel will advocate such a progressiv The Sentine, will advocate such a progressive foreign policy as will suit itself to the exigencies, and correspond with the expanding interests of the country. That policy should be energetic and decided; but should temper firmness with liberality, and make its highest ends consist with the strictest principles of justice. The real interests of the country, upon each occasion demanding attention will be its guide in the course the Sentimes will pursue.

essentially aggressive. In the growing sense of weakness of some of the nations of the Old World, and the ambitious restlessness of others, a common motive to colonial extension has developed self. Our settled determination to repel interference

prompt us to avoid it in the affairs of other countries, unless by their foreign or colonial policy our peace should be threatened, our security endan gered, or our interests invaded. For when the selfish interests of other nations prompt a foreign or colonial policy which infringes upon our rights, and places in the pathway of our commerce a dangerous and unfriendly rival, such a policy must be resisted by remonstrance, and, if need he key be resisted by remonstrance, and, if need be, by

Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive, but to be properly defensive, it must sometimes be apparently aggressive. Our administration should be vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world be vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world is full of important movements, commercial and political, deeply concerning American trade and American power. It is time we had an American storeign policy. We must have it. We cannot avoid it if we would. We have larger interests, and a greater stake in the world and its destuny, than every other people. We occupy the best portion of a continent, with no neighbors but a colony, and a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the olny people whose own land, without colonial defendencies, is washed by the two great oceans of the world. Our agricultural productions are more varied and more essential to civilized life, and ts liuman progress—our mineral and manufacturing varied and more essential to civilized life, and to human progress—our mineral and manufacturing resources more vast—our facilities and capacity for internal and foreign commerce more extended than those of any other people living under one government. A continent, to a great extent, unexplored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth is at our feet. European trade seeks the great East through avenues which are at our doors, or must be made through our own limits. Europe, Asia, Africa, and the isles of the sea, lying all around us, look to us as the rising power, through the agency of whose example, and ever widening and extending, though peaceful influences, the bless ings of liberty, civilization, and religion, are destined to triumph over the barbarism and superstition of the millions of the world. And shall such a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and act upon the high mission to which it is called? A mission so full of hope, though so laden with responsibility, which, if properly directed, must make our confederacy the harbinger of peace to the world, as well as the peaceful arbiter of its destine.

destiny.

The Sentinel will, therefore, advocate a bold and earnest foreign policy, such as the condition of the country demands; but it will advocate it under the flag of the country—nowhere else. Its foreign policy must be consistent with the spotless honor and unimpeachable good faith of the country. To be respectable at home and abroad, and to be great in the eyes of the world, it must ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong. It must be liberal and magnanimous to the rights of others, and firm and immoveable in insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to its own interests, rights, and honor—it cannot then be false to those of other nations.

Such, then, is the chart by which we shall be

Such, then, is the chart by which we shall be guided. Independent and free, we shall endeavor to be honest and truthful. The true friends of democratic principles we shall cordially support and defend. Its enemies in the field or in ambush we shall oppose, and on all proper occasions de;

To our future brethren of the press we extend the hand of friendly greeting. The Sentinel is the rival of no press of its own party—the personal enemy of none of the other.

The present Democratic Administration has our best wishes for its success in the establishment of the great principles upon which it came into power, and in its honest labors to attain such an end it

ATER YEARS, by the Author of "the Old House by the River."

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May 17—1wd

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not be withheld. BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED PERIODICAL.

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It will be political, but liberal; owing no slavish allegiance to parties or politicians, it will advocate measures, not men, and will labor only for the

success of principles.

It will be progressive, yet sternly opposed to
the reckless spirit of innovation so rife in the country—aiming to elevate and advance, not de-press; to reform and improve, not to destroy; sacredly adhering to the true intent of our great republican theory, and laboring to advance it to its fullest development.

It will be truly American in tone and sentiment, but will repuddate nothing foreign morely because

but will repudiate nothing foreign, merely because so; believing that the good, the useful, and true belong not, par excellence, to any favored people,

but are the common right of all.

It will be the organ of pure conservatism.

It will encourage a high-toned literature, and defend pure morals in all the social relations of

ife.

And it will number in its corps of regular contributors some of the ablest political and literary writers of the country.

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W. T. HELMS,

May 31, 1555. EAVES from a Family Journal, from the French of Emilie Souvestre, author of The Attic Philosopher in Paris. Mrs.Jameson's Common-place Book of Thoughts,

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Pianos tuned, warranted to give satis STATIONERS' HALL, adjoining Kirkwood House.

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Should the above property not be sold at private sale prior to the 15th of May, it will be sold on that day at public auction. TALUABLE REAL ESTATE FOR

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JAMES A. STORM.

Berkkley Springs, To the Patrons of Berkeley Springs.

JAMES A. ST Morgan County, Va., July 1, 1855. July 18—tf.

PROSPECTUS

UNITED STATES TIMES, Weekly Newspaper to be published in Washington City.

The undersigned, expecting soon to retire from the position he has for some time held as Superintendent of the United States Census, intends to devote himself to the control and management of the REVIEW, of which, for the last nine years, be has been the editor and proprietor, and to the publication in the City of Washington of a weekly newspaper with the above title.

The material for this paper will consist, in part of selections or extracts from articles admitted into the REVIEW, but mainly of other original literary, educational, industrial, and miscellaneous matters, including digests of the current events of the day, home and foreign; the proceedings of Congress and the acts of the Government; literary and scientific sketches and essays upon eading and popular topics; biographical sketches of public men; digest of official reports, State and Federal; the state of the markets in the several supply, demand, prices, etc.; the increase of the country as shown by statistics, bringing down

those of the National Census always to date The object will be, through careful editorial management and a 'arge and well-selected correspondence, to establish at the seat of government a Family Newspaper which shall be adapted to the wants of every community; imparting musement and information, and political, only to the extent of maintaining the institutions of the country and defending the rights and sovereignty

The City of Washington, from the advantage which it presents for obtaining material of every kind, through the action of the Smithsonian Institution, the Patent Office, and the National Agri cultural Convention, etc., and the several Bureaus and Departments of Government, from its conti guity to the large commercial cities, from the extended, exciting, and all important interests that concentrate upon it. is, perhaps, the most eligible location for such a journal, and ample guarantees of its success have already been received. It will be printed in folio for the convenience of binding, and similar in style to the New York Albion.

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A monthl' istorical digest of events will be embraced in as pages, valuable for future refer

The subscription price of the REVIEW will remain at \$5 per annum, but for the convenience of the large class of persons who may not desire the whole work, or who may only solicit information upon one or more of the subjects to which it is devoted, it is in contemplation to make a separate publication of the matter relating to Agriculture, another of that relating to Manufac tures; a third so Internal Improvements; a fourth to Commerce; and a fifth to Education and Letters. These publications will be but departments of the whole work, and may be subscribed for separately at \$1 per annum each. They will appear monthly in handsome periodical style, of from twenty-five to thirty-two pages; constituting an annual octavo volume of 360 pages each, showing at a single view and in a condensed form the whole results, within the year, in the particular department, in our own country and abroad, as the REVIEW itself will show them in all of the departments of indus-

The Office of DeBow's REVIEW will remain as before at New Orleans, though a branch will be located at Washington, which will be also the main office of the other Journals, and may be addressed at all times in regard to them. The particular address of the editor, whether Washington or New Orleans, will be furnished from time J. D. B. DEBOW.

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Mar 1—3t

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Messrs. TAYLOR & MAURY beg to announce that, at the suggestion of several of our citizens, the pictures now on exhibition at their store will be raffled for.

Eleven prizes; sixty chances, at \$5.

April 12

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TRAYED OR STOLEN from the Pestioval, at Bladensburg, on the night of Tuesday last, a DARK BROWN MARE, with her fore feet bare, a white star in the forehead, and marked on the back with saddle pinch; the said mare had a saddle on. Whoever will return said mare, or give information where she can be found, will receive many thanks, and Five Dollars as a reward.

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